

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Internat Application No
PCT/18 03/04872

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 A61F2/44

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 A61F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EP0-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6 368 350 B1 (GRIFFITH STEVEN L ET AL) 9 April 2002 (2002-04-09) figures 20-33 column 8, line 36 -column 10, line 6	1-3, 7-10, 14-17,19
A		4-6
X	WO 01 01893 A (BEYERSDORFF BORIS ;MARNAY THIERRY (FR); SPINE SOLUTIONS INC (US)) 11 January 2001 (2001-01-11) claims 1,9-7; figures page 12, paragraphs 1,3 --- -/--	1-3,7,8, 10,11, 14-16

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *8* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

24 February 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

03/03/2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA
European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3018

Authorized officer

Stach, R

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Internati Application No
PCT/IB 03/04872

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP 0 560 141 A (LINK WALDEMAR GMBH CO) 15 September 1993 (1993-09-15) figures 8-15 column 3, line 48 - line 50 column 4, line 57 -column 5, line 43 ---	1-3, 7-10, 15-17,19
X	WO 00 74606 A (SDGI HOLDINGS INC ;ZDEBLICK THOMAS A (US); MCKAY WILLIAM F (US)) 14 December 2000 (2000-12-14) claim 1; figures 1-7,28,35,38,49A,49B page 16, line 25 - line 29 page 17, line 16 - line 30 page 22, line 22 -page 23, line 8 page 23, line 30 -page 24, line 1	1,2, 4-10,14, 20
A	-----	11

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/IB 03/04872

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 6368350	B1	09-04-2002	AU 3873000 A WO 0053127 A1	28-09-2000 14-09-2000
WO 0101893	A	11-01-2001	DE 29911422 U1 WO 0101893 A1 AU 7224500 A BR 9917397 A CA 2391330 A1 EP 1194088 A1 JP 2003503154 T	12-08-1999 11-01-2001 22-01-2001 05-03-2002 11-01-2001 10-04-2002 28-01-2003
EP 0560141	A	15-09-1993	DE 4208116 A1 AT 144695 T DE 59304327 D1 EP 0560141 A1 ES 2094393 T3 JP 3017371 B2 JP 6007391 A US 5401269 A	23-09-1993 15-11-1996 05-12-1996 15-09-1993 16-01-1997 06-03-2000 18-01-1994 28-03-1995
WO 0074606	A	14-12-2000	AU 5320100 A CA 2376097 A1 EP 1185221 A1 JP 2003501142 T WO 0074606 A1 US 2002082701 A1 US 6402785 B1	28-12-2000 14-12-2000 13-03-2002 14-01-2003 14-12-2000 27-06-2002 11-06-2002

THIS PAGE BLANK (USPTO)